heart, unblamed, above humanity; and happy would it be for women, if they were only flattered by the men who loved them; I mean, who love the individual, not the ſex; but ſhould a grave preacher interlard his diſcourſes with ſuch fooleries?

In ſermons or novels, however, voluptuouſneſs is always true to its text. Men are allowed by moraliſts to cultivate, as Nature directs, different qualities, and aſſume the different characters, that the ſame paſſions, modified almoſt to infinity, give to each individual. A virtuous man may have a choleric or a ſanguine conſtitution, be gay or grave, unreproved; be firm till he is almoſt overbearing, or, weakly ſubmiſſive, have no will or opinion of his own; but all women are to be levelled, by meekneſs and docility, into one character of yielding ſoftneſs and gentle compliance.

I will uſe the preacher's own words. 'Let 'it be obſerved, that in your ſex manly exerciſes are never graceful; that in them a 'tone and figure, as well as an air and deportment, of the maſculine kind, are always 'forbidding; and that men of ſenſibility deſire in every woman ſoft features, and a 'flowing

'flowing voice, a form, not robuſt, and de-'meanour delicate and gentle.'

Is not the following portrait—the portrait of a houſe ſlave? 'I am aſtoniſhed at the folly of 'many women, who are ſtill reproaching their 'huſbands for leaving them alone, for pre-'ferring this or that company to theirs, for 'treating them with this and the other mark 'of diſregard or indifference; when, to ſpeak 'the truth, they have themſelves in a great 'meaſure to blame. Not that I would juſ-'tify the men in any thing wrong on their 'part. But had you behaved to them with 'more *reſpectful obſervance*, and a more *equal* '*tenderneſs*; *ſtudying their humours*, *overlook-*'*ing their miſtakes*, *ſubmitting to their opinions* 'in matters indifferent, paſſing by little in-'ſtances of unevenneſs, caprice, or paſſion, 'giving *ſoft* anſwers to haſty words, com-'plaining as ſeldom as poſſible, and making it 'your daily care to relieve their anxieties and 'prevent their wiſhes, to enliven the hour of 'dulneſs, and call up the ideas of felicity: 'had you purſued this conduct, I doubt not 'but you would have maintained and even 'increaſed their eſteem, ſo far as to have 'ſecured every degree of influence that could